

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAB-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /122 W

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R 111510Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1800

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 1431

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IS XF

SUBJ: DAYAN'S KNESSET REMARKS ON FOREIGN POLICY

1. IN KNESSET DEBATE MARCH 10 PRECEDING VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN NEW ISRAELI GOVERNMENT, DEFENSE MINISTER DAYAN MADE FOLLOWING REMARKS CONCERNING ISRAEL'S NEIGHBORS AND ONGOING SEARCH FOR PEACE. FOLLOWING IS BASED ON NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS AND RECOLLECTION OF EMBOFF WHO WAS PRESENT, SINCE OFFICIAL TEXT UNAVAILABLE.

2. EGYPT'S DESIRE FOR PEACE. DAYAN READ TO KNESSET AT LENGTH NEWS ACCOUNT OF INTERVIEW HELD MARCH 9 BY EGYPTIAN RECONSTRUCTION MINISTER OSMAN OSMAN. DAYAN STATED THAT WHILE EGYPT WOULD NOT SIGN PEACE TREATY ON TERMS THAT ISRAEL WANTED, OSMAN'S NEWS CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF SUEZ CANAL AREA AND SINAI ILLUSTRATED THAT EGYPT WAS MOVING IN RIGHT DIRECTION. DAYAN SAID THAT SADAT'S POLICIES ON PEACE WERE DIFFERENT FROM NASSER'S AND ISRAEL SHOULD KEEP THIS IN MIND IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT.

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3. WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI. REGARDING ADDITIONAL ISRAELI WITH-

DRAWAL FROM SINAI, DAYAN SAID THAT PRESENT LINE IN SINAI WAS NOT FINAL ONE TO WHICH ISRAEL WOULD WITHDRAW. DAYAN SAID THAT HE COULD NOT FORESEE ABU RODEIS OILFIELDS FALLING WITHIN ISRAEL'S FINAL SECURITY LINE AND THAT ISRAEL SHOULD NOT INSIST ON KEEPING OILFIELDS. CONTROL OF GULF OF SUEZ SHOULD ALSO NOT BE INCLUDED IN FINAL LINE, SINCE THERE COULD BE NO LASTING PEACE WITH EGYPT AS LONG AS ISRAEL CONTROLLED THIS AREA. DAYAN SPECIFICALLY DECLINED, HOWEVER, TO STATE WHAT HE BELIEVED ISRAEL'S FINAL BORDER WITH EGYPT SHOULD BE, ALTHOUGH HE STRONGLY IMPLIED THAT GULF OF AQABA SHOULD REMAIN UNDER ISRAELI CONTROL. HE ADDED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO FURTHER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI UNTIL A PEACE TREATY HAD BEEN REACHED WITH EGYPT.

4. SYRIA. DAYAN STATED THAT SITUATION ON SYRIAN FRONT WAS EXPLOSIVE AND THAT THIS SITUATION HAD MADE URGENT FORMATION OF NEW ISRAELI GOVERNMENT OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE. SINCE IT APPEARED THAT HIS REFUSAL TO JOIN NEW GOVERNMENT WAS DELAYING FORMATION OF CABINET, HE HAD REVERSED HIS EARLIER DECISION.
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